

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1 – 38 are pending.

It is acknowledged that misnumbered claims 12-36 have been renumbered as claims 14-38, respectively.

Claims 1 – 38 are subject to restriction.

No claims have been amended.

REMARKS

Restriction of claims 1-38

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following inventions, in which the characterizations of the inventions have been restated to correspond to the claims:

Group I, drawn to a handheld searchlight having in combination a printed circuit board, a housing and a heat sink (claims 1-7);

Group II, drawn to a lamp assembly system for a handheld illumination system having a lamp socket hole including a spring assembly (claims 8-10);

Group III, drawn to a lamp having a glass envelope, a base portion and an anode pin lead and a cathode pin lead extending from the base portion (claims 11-13);

Group IV, drawn to a handheld searchlight comprising a magnetic switch for controlling ON/OFF power to a lamp (claims 14-15);

Group V, drawn to a handheld searchlight having a threaded end cap having circular electrical contacts configured to couple an external power source. (claims 16-19);

Group VI, drawn to a handheld searchlight having a body section and a head section encasing a reflector and a lamp (claims 20-25);

Group VII, drawn to a method of supplying power to a handheld searchlight comprising inducing a voltage using inductive coupling (claims 26-28).

Group VIII, drawn to a handheld searchlight having a lamp having a cylindrical neck portion and reflector having a collar surrounding the neck portion (claims 31-34).

Group IX, drawn to a handheld searchlight having a housing, a battery, and an internal battery charger (claims 35 -38).

The requirement for restriction is respectfully traversed.

Applicant provisionally elects the invention of Group I (Claims 1-7).

The applicant disagrees with the grouping of claims 29-30. It is submitted that claims 26-30, as renumbered, correspond to Group VII, and that claims 31-34, as renumbered, correspond to Group VIII.

The Examiner states that Inventions I-X are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. However, the Office Action identifies only nine inventions. The Examiner states that subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. The Examiner

states that in the instant case, all the subcombinations have separate utility such as being used in automobile applications, room lighting, apparel lighting etc.

The stated grounds do not support a requirement for restriction between the invention of Group VII and the inventions of Groups I-VI and VIII-IX. The invention of Group VII is a method, and the inventions of Groups I-VI and VIII-IX are apparatuses. Accordingly, the invention of Group VII, on the one hand, and the inventions of Groups I-VI and VIII-IX, on the other hand, are not related as subcombinations. Removal of this restriction is requested.

Restriction is believed not to be proper among the inventions of Groups I-VI and VIII-IX in this application for the reason that the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions. See MPEP §803.01. In fact, the search and examination of the inventions of Groups I-VI and VIII-IX in this application may be made without serious burden. As the Examiner has noted, each of these inventions is classified in class 362. Indeed, the Examiner has indicated that the inventions of Groups I and IV share the same classification, in class 362, subclass 294. Thus, the fields of search for at least two of these inventions at least overlap.

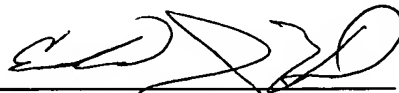
For the foregoing reasons, the requirement of restriction among Groups I-IX is respectfully traversed.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes he has traversed the restriction requirement, and respectfully requests that claims 1 – 38 be substantively examined.

Should there be any questions or outstanding matters, the Examiner is cordially invited and requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at his number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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